AN ATTEMPT TO COMPEL THE SUPPLYING OF GAS

Alderman Leich threw a large-sized bombshell into the meeting of the Board of Aldermen yesterday in the shape of a resolution callfor a three years' contract with the Brooklyn-Union Gas Company. He added to the consternation by telling the Republican members of the Board that they were permitting themselves to be blindly led to the injury of their party by the Democratic members of the Board. The members loudly professed their honesty and then voted to bury the Leich reso lution in the bosom of the slumberous Committee on Electricity and Gas. All cast their vote for this indorsement of the committee except Aldermen Leich and Ruggles.

After reciting the pressing necessity for a contract, Mr. Leich's resolution continues: Resolved. That the period of the contracts be aree years, to commence the first day of January.

AT CHEAPER RATES REFERRED TO THE

SLEEPY COMMITTEE-ALDERMAN

STEWART'S CLOSE GUESS.

187.
Resolved. That the contracts provide for and secure to the city prices lower than any now prescribed therein by law, and a progressive reduction in such prices for each year during the continued performance of such contracts, and also the indemnity and assurance previded for in and hy said law.

That the contracts also provide and Resolved. That the contracts also provide and require that each gas corporation party to such contract supply gas to the inhabitants of the city at prices lower than those now charged by such corporations party thereto, and progressively lower for each year of such term.

Resolved. That the Department of City Works be, and hereby is authorized to advertise in the

he, and hereby is, authorized to advertise in the corporation newspapers for the period of ten days, inviting bids on proposals for a supply of gas to the city of Brooklyn and to the inhabitants thereof, and during a period of three years, upon the terms and with the conditions provided in chapter 199 of the laws of 1895.

In closing, the resolutions require that all bids shall be rejected which do not in terms propose to furnish gas throughout the whole of that territory in which the bidder has its mains, and such streets must be specified.

In support of his resolution Mr. Leich said: 'As chairman of the Committee on Electricity

and Gas I have used every honorable effort to induce my associates in the committee to take action, in order that the duties imposed upon us by virtue of our office might be exercised for the benefit of our constituents whom we were elected to represent.

"The patience of the people as voiced through the public press is exhausted, and they demand that relief be given them. Let us, by the passage of this resolution, disabuse the minds of the public, who, I fear, are apprehensive that the corporation which has come here in the guise of a petitioner is already the dictator of the actions of this body. As an Alderman elected to discharge the functions of local legislator, I propose to stand by the people and to lift up my voice in protection of their interests." He moved the adoption of the resolutions.

A SPLIT ON THE ROCK OF TIME.

Alderman Guilfoyle, Democratic leader, presented an amendment to have all bids rejected that exceeded \$1, and to limit the time of the contract to one year.

"It is time the Republican majority of this Board ceased to be bullyragged by the Democratic minority," was Alderman Leich's reply to this proposition. "If they fell less frequently into pitfalls prepared for them by the Democratic members they would improve their chances for the future."

Alderman Francisco, a member of the Gas Committee, said he wanted a five-year contract, with \$1 gas for the first year and 80 cents for subsequent years. When pressed by Alderman McGarry for his reason for holding out so long for a five-year contract, Alderman Francisco replied that he thought that period would most benefit the people. His attitude had not changed for eight months, he declared.

Alderman McGarry said he favored a one-year contract because he thought something might be done in the near future to suppress the gas monopoly or to give the city ownership of its as works. Alderman Francisco then returned to the fray by referring irrelevantly to applications made for contracts by other companies. He declared that they were not honest, and that some people around the Doard were interested in

resolution, and said that the Wray law only permits the Board to fix the time for which a contract shall run, and does not permit the establishing by the Board of any price.

"Suppose the Board should ignore the law?" suggested President Clark. Alderman Leich sald that this law superseded all others, and that if the president had any information to the contrary he had kept it to himself. He continued by saying that the maximum price was fixed at \$1 25, and that if the company chose to bid a sliding scale beginning at \$1.24 and dropping a cent each year, there was no way of compelling it to make a lower bid, as one company had exclusive possession of nearly all the important streets of Brooklyn.

After the meeting, Alderman Leich asserted to a Tribune reporter, regarding the resolution to fix the price at \$1, that the only possible motive for such a resolution was to secure further delay, as it was absurd to suppose that the gas monopoly would bid to furnish both the city and private consumers gas at \$1, when it had the city at its mercy if it did not choose to bid at all.

Alderman Guilfoyle rallied the members against permitting Alderman Leich to whip them into line, and Alderman Leich replied that it was time the Republicans took action and upheld the present clean Republican administration. When Alderman McGarry, Democrat, asked him if he wanted to make this a Republican measure, Mr. Leich cut him off with some remark about the "little gentleman from the

Alderman Messinger started a speech by saying, "We are babies in the hands of the trust." leading those around him to think that he was going to take the gas company by the throat. But he wound up by saying that when a man attempted to wrestle with a corporation, the corporation generally came out on top and not the

man. STEWART ON THE LEGISLATURE.

Alderman Stewart said he could not see where the word dishonesty had any application to the Board. He figured out that the city was actually making money by not having a contract for the gas furnished. He admitted that there was a claim to the effect that he was a friend to the gas company, but this he denied. He wanted to wait awhile, and gave as a reason that new companies might be organized.

panies might be organized.

"Yes, and the Legislature may meet," said Alderman Leich.

"Yes, and there may be new laws enacted," replied Alderman Stewart frankly.

By the expression on the faces of the Alderman at this remark it was evident that Alderman Stewart had come near giving the real reason for all this delay—that nothing might be done until the Legislature repealed the Wray act, which compelled the giving to private consumers the same reduction in the price of gas as is given to the city.

Alderman Singleton could not see what was the use of all this "windjamming," as everybody knew that the lower the price of gas was fixed the more gas the inspectors made you consume. The inspector that called at his house, he said, sometimes read the meter when the coal was piled so high that he couldn't get to it. It was foolishness for the Aldermen to question each other's honesty when the city was "going to get soaked just the same."

To Alderman Stewart's money-saving argument Alderman Leich replied that the private annual consumption of the city was 3,000,000,000,000

To Alderman Stewart's money-saving arguent Alderman Leich replied that the private musl consumption of the city was 3,000,000,000 abic feet, and that this meant a saving to private consumers of \$30,000 a year for every re-

LEICH RAISED HIS VOICE.

HIS COLLEAGUES, HOWEVER, VOTED,
AND THE GAS TRUST IS SAFE.

duction in price of 1 cent. Alderman Oltrogge moved that the report go to the Gas Committee, whereupon Alderman McGarry prodded the Board again by remarking that if it hesitated it was lost, and the lines would then be drawn more strongly for another "coup d'etat." Aldermen Ruggles and Leich were the only ones who voied against the reference.

voted against the reference.

A communication was received from the Health Department stating that if an analysis were made of the quality of the gas, as directed, an appropriation of \$750 would have to be made to pay for special apparatus and equipments. The resolution from the Committee on Gas and Electricity directing the City Works Commissioner to inform the Board next Monday what liability the city had incurred because of the failure to make a gas contract was adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

Keeper Spitzer received \$125 with which to purchase three new flags for the City Hall. A resolution permitting the Board of Assessors to readvertise for bids for mapping the Thirtysecond Ward was referred to the Law Committee. President Neff informed some of the members that he did not believe that Frederick B. Strom was able to do the work satisfactorily. Strom's bid is \$4,200, which is \$4,000 less than

Strom's bid is \$4,200, which is \$4,000 less than the next lowest bid.

An application for a franchise from the Wallabout Cold Storage and Freezing Company was sent to the Committee on Docks and Markets. The company promises to give the city 2½ percent of its gross profits. Resolutions appropriating \$750 for sofas, couch and other furniture for the room formerly used by the City Treasurer, and now to be used by the Aldermen, was sent to the Committee on Supplies, after Alderman Leich had objected that the Aldermen were proposing to expend as much money on furnishing this room as would furnish an entire house.

Alderman Ruggles got through a resolution

money on furnishing this room as would furnish an entire house.

Alderman Ruggles got through a resolution leasing the old 13th Regiment Armory to the Cycle Club at a monthly rental of \$120. Alderman Dunn thought the offer of \$166 a month made by an athletic club in which Police Justice J. G. Tighe is interested should be accepted.

"We want no more prize-fighting." said Alderman Ruggles. "That prize-fight in San Francisco has given prize-fighting a black eye. Such a resolution would be vetoed by the Mayor."

Alderman Guilfoyle said that the company was organized for "athletic sports." and Alderman Dunn called attention to the fact that Theodore B. Rooseveit had approved contests under the new law. Alderman McGarry, who wastes no affection on Justice Tighe, agreed to letting the armory to the Cycle Club, but did not want it to have permission to sub-let. The only members who voted against renting to the Cycle Club were Conly, Dunn, Dunne and Williams.

lams.

The Police Department was instructed to enforce the ordinance against leaving ice and snow on the sidewalks.

GORMAN'S LAST TERM, HE THINKS.

SENATOR-ELECT WELLINGTON SAYS THAT A REPUBLICAN WILL SUCCEED THE

DEMOCRAT IN MARYLAND. United States Senator-elect George L. Welling-

on, of Maryland, who was the guest of the Union League Club on Saturday night, was asked by a Tribune reporter about the prospect of Republican supremacy in that State in 1899, when Senator Gor-

"I would not care to be placed in an attitude of discourtesy toward Senator Gorman," said Mr. Wellington in reply, "but I am free to say that there is every prospect that this is his last term as United States Senator. The Republicans of as United States Senator. The Republicans of Maryland have had an actual plurality of voters for years, but political chicanery has been too much for us until a year or two ago. The western section of the State has been Republican for a long time. The city of Baltimore has been the pivotal point, the Eastern Shore being normally Democratic. We have been gaining ground year by year, and the better class of Democrats, who have become sick of their party, have probably come over to us for good. Our plurality in the State this fall—about 32,000—shows that there is a big margin against dishonest government. You may say that unusual precautions will be taken to keep the party harmonious and active, so that the Legislature in 18% will send a good Republican to the Senate in the place of Mr. Gorman. There is no doubt whatever that this will be done."

HE WANTS TO GO TO SCHOOL.

THIS LITTLE FELLOW SAYS HIS FATHER SENT HIM OUT TO BEG.

Conrad Newcomb, who gave his address 2.383 Fulton-st., applied yesterday to Sister Rose, of St. Malachy's Home, Van Sickien and Atlantic ayes. to be placed in the institution. The boy said that he ent out to beg by his father two days before and had not slept for two nights. He would not return to his home, and Sister Rose sent him in charge of another boy to the Seventeenth Precinct stationhouse to have his story investigated. There he said he was thirteen years old, and that his mother had motorman on the Fulton-st, and De Kall-ave, cars. Since his mother died his father had not worked since his mother died his lather had had often sent the boy out to beg. His father, he said, had married Mrs. Richards, a widow with two children, who had a little money, and as soon as this was gone the boy was sent to beg and as soon as this was gone the boy was sent to beg again. His stepmother, he said, was a good woman, who never abused him, nor did he make any complaint that his father had abused him. He said that owing to being obliged to beg he had been unable to get any schooling, except six months at St. Malachy's. He was ashatmed because he gould not read or write, and wanted to be committed to some institution where he could get an education. He was comfortably clothed.

Patrolman White investigated the story, and Mrs. Newcomb corroborated the boy's statements, except as regards being sent out to beg. She said the boy's father sent him out for something, but did not know the nature of the errand. The Children's Society has been informed of the case.

AIDED BY MEMBERS' LOYALTY.

THE BROOKLYN CLUB PAYS OFF A \$10,000 MORT-GAGE WITHOUT DIFFICULTY.

The members of the Brooklyn Club have solved a firancial difficulty, and demonstrated at the same time their loyalty to the club. The Brooklyn Trust Company has for some time held a mortgage for \$70,000 on the club property, at Pierrepont and Clinton sts. When the bookkeeper defaulted to the extent of \$13,000 or \$14,000, an additional mortgage of \$10,000 was taken by the late Henry Polhemus, who for many years was president of the club. After for many years was president of the club. And his executors demanded the money, which was paid by the trust company and added to the first mortgage. Just before election the term for the payment of the second mortgage expired, and it was demanded by the trust company. The officers of the club expected that the trust company would allow the mortgage to run along with the first one, as the property was abundant security for both mortgages. The demand, however, was made, and a question arose how to procure funds to meet it. It was proposed to issue bonds of small denominations to cover the need of \$10,000. An old member, E. T. Hunt, handed to the president his personal check for \$5,000, payable to the order of the club. It was a little gift, he said, to beip out the payment of the mortgage. A discussion followed at a meeting soon after, when several of the members added their names to the list of subscribers. The president than made a personal appeal to the members, the necessary amount was raised and the mortgage paid off. Not only that, but there is that sum less on which interest must be paid. his death his executors demanded the money,

CONCERT OF THE APOLLO CLUB.

AN ATTRACTIVE PROGRAMME TO BE GIVEN THIS

EVENING. A musical feature which is invariably attended with genuine pleasure even by the ultra-critical is the early winter concert of the Apollo Club of Brooklyn. It will take place to-night in the Brooklyn. It will take place to-night in the Academy of Music. It will be an evening dress affair, and the merit of the performance can in a degree be measured by the programme which fol-

(a) "Maid and Butterfly" Th. Podbertsk	3
(b) "My Children's Prayer" Th. Podbertsk	æ
(b) My Children a Frayer	а
On the Sea	n
"On the Sea" Dudley Buc "God Bless Thee, Love, Forever" Th. Podbertsk	ж
Madrigal	ä
Street music	a
The Apollo Club.	
Aria, "Qui dei Contrabandieri"	н
From "Carmen."	
Songs, "Gretchen am Spinnrade" Schuber	4
Songs, Gretchen am Spinnrage	a
"Herzenspühling"	æ
Miss Sophie Traubmann,	
Arts ''O tol out m'abandonnes' Meverbes	e.
From "Le Prophete."	а
From the Prophete.	
Mrs. Marian Van Duyn.	
(a) "Farewell Song of the Birds" Mendelssoh	n
(b) "Greeting"	'n
Miss Traubmann and Mrs. Van Duyn.	п
	а
Air Varie No. 2	и
Income Country Violiniate	

ALLEGED BURGLARS SET FREE.

James Clinch and Clarence Remsen, of Gravesend breaking open trunks and stealing jewelry and cloth-ing valued at \$170, were discharged yesterday by Justice Cowenhoven in the Fort Hamilton Police Court.
The complainants are now in the West Indies, and it
is impossible for them to appear against the men. Continued from Fifteenth Page.

THE STRANGE COMPANION JOHN SUYDAM PICKED UP ON HIS WAY HOME.

New-Brunswick, Dec. 7 .- John Buydam, a farmer living near Franklin Park, reported to the police this morning an encounter he had with a burglar on Friday last, and turned over to them a burglar's kit which he obtained as the result of his experi-ence. He said that on the day mentioned he drove to this city behind a spirited colt. As he was homeward bound he overtook what he sup posed was a woman, walking toward Franklin She was carrying a satchel, and as h overtook her he was asked to extend a "lift" to the pedestrian. Suydam agreed, and the stranger climbed into the buggy. The satchel was placed in the bottom of the buggy, and as the strange was getting in Suydam says he noticed that the feet which projected from under the dress were unusually large, even for a woman who worked on farm. He also saw that the hands were large and were covered with hair. This made him sus-picious. When Suydam addressed the stranger he received only monosyllabic replies, and these were in a heavy voice, such as few women ever pos-

Suydam sald he was in a bad way. He had considerable money with him and feared it was a ruse to rob him. He determined to get rid of his travelling companion, but how to do so without attracting attention and causing suspicion he did not know. Suydam drove rapidly until he was comparatively near a farmhouse, when he agitated his horse and put him on his mettle. In what appeared to be almost frantic efforts to subdue the animal, Suydam allowed the whip to slip from his hand. He brought the horse to a standstill at some distance further on, and then requested his companion to get out and get the whip. He apologized by saying that he did not dare leave the norse while it was excited.

The stranger alighted and ran back for the whip. When he had almost reached it Suydam started his horse and drove-away. He looked back and saw his alleged woman companion following on a run, and cursing loudly in a voice that was unmistakably that of a man. Suydam kept up a fast pace until he was well out of the way. When he reached home he opened the bag and found in it two revolvers, two dirk knives and a set of burglar's tools, including implements for opening a safe. ling companion, but how to do so without attract-

IT MAY RESTORE HER SIGHT.

CAUSE OF A CHILD'S BLINDNESS FOUND WITH THE X RAYS AND REMOVED.

Mary Schoeiner, eight years old, the daughter of F. O. Schoelner, of No. 248 Fairmount-ave., Newark, who has been blind for two months, was subjected to the test of the X rays by Thomas A. Edison two weeks ago, and the parents of the child believe she will regain her eyesight. Although the eyes have been bandaged since the test was made, the child can distinguish between light and darkness.

The blindness was caused by an accident. When Mary was five years old she fell from a porch and struck on her head. The wound healed, but last summer the child's sight began to grow dire and she became totally blind. It was found that there was pressure on the optic nerve, and exam ination showed that the skull was depressed. The X rays were used to find the point of the pressure The operation was performed a week ago by Drs. The operation was performed a week ago by Dra-kalley and Wendell, of Newark. The top of the skull was removed and it was found that the bone pressed upon the anterior part of the brain, while a blood clot extended down through the brain and pressed upon the optic nerve. The clot was removed, and the skull trephined, and on Sunday the child took dinner with her family.

Dr. Balley said yesterday that unless the nerve had become atrophied there was no reason why the eyesight will not be restored. But until the bandages are removed nothing will be known defi-nitely.

GOLD IN AN OLD COPPER MINE

INSANE OCCUPANT OF THE ABANDONED SHAFT SAYS HE HAS DISCOVERED A DONANZA.

doned shafts of the old copper mine in North Arlington was captured early yesterday morning by Policeman John Smith, of Kenrny, as he was making his escape from one of the many exits of but was finally lodged in the Kentriy police station. He gave his name as Oleum Nobody, of Denver, Col., and said that he was a mining engineer and prospector. Soon after his incarcera he became extremely violent,

As an investigation of the shaft in which the man lived revealed no stolen property beside the man lived revealed no stolen property beside the food and provisions found on Sunday, Mayor Bayils had decided to take no action against him, but
his violence made it clear that the man was of
unsound mind and would have to be committed
for examination, Later in the day the prisoner
was arraigned before Justice of the Pearc C. A.
Krebs. He then said that his name was Jacob
Miller. He said he was a miner and had been
working in the old cuttings and shafts of the copper mine for nearly a month, and added that he per mine for nearly a month, and added that he had found a lead of gold in the mines. He was sent to the Hackensack jail.

MUCH ADO OVER AN ASTRACHAN COAT.

SEVERAL PEOPLE ACCUSED OF HAVING STOLEN IT. BUT THE REAL CULPRIT SEEMS TO BE AT LARGE.

To BE AT LARGE.

New-Brunswick, Dec. 7.—Katle Frazes, a waltress
in the boarding house of Mrs. II, Oliver, at No. 429
George-st., has an astrachan cost with big pearl buttons which within a week has caused considerable tons which within a week has caused considerable trouble. Many people are concerned in the affair. Miss Frazee bought it from Charles Baler for \$9.75. The amount was to be paid in weekly instalments of \$2 each. She paid \$2 down, and her mistress became security for the remainder. Later Miss Frazee paid \$2.

Baier called on Thursday last for the second pay-

more.

Baier called on Thursday last for the second payment. After he had left the house Miss Frazee missed the coat, and jumped to the conclusion that Baier had taken it. She wanted Baier arrested. Chief of Police Harding thought it best not to make an arrest, but sent an officer to find Baier and ask him to explain. Baier promptly did so. But when he learned that he was suspected of stealing the coat he declared the girl wanted to get out of paying for it and had got up the story to cheat him out of his money. Then he wanted the girl arrested, but this was refused. Mrs. Officer became alarmed and threatened to withhold the girl's wages unless the trouble was cleared up.

A few hours after the interested persons left the station-house a citizen brought in a horse and wagor which he had found wandering about the streets. Later the horse was claimed by John Ryno, of Morrisst, who said he had sent William Millerout with a load of vegetables to sell. When Ryno was unloading the wagon he found a woman's coat in it. Instead of giving it to the police he kept it, but told of his find, and everybody soon knew of it. On Sunday Mrs. Frazee, mother of the owner of the coat, visited a neighbor of Ryno's and on telling the story of her daughter's loss was informed of how Ryno had found a coat. It proved to be the one lost by her daughter.

Miss Frazee was told this story by her mother and the interested ones again hurried to the pilles station. Chief Harding sent an officer to bring Ryno and the coat to the station-house, but while he was gone Detective Ollver entered with the coat. There was a comparison of notes, and it was found that Miller had solleided trade at Mrs. Oliver's house on the morning the coar was stolen, so the conclusion arrived at is that he stole the coat. The police are looking for him on that charge and also on one Mr. Ryno wants to make for having embezzied the money he received from the sale of the vegetables. Miller has not heen seen since Thursday.

EX-CONGRESSMAN HORR BETTER.

Plainfield, Dec. 7.-Dr. B. Van D. Hedges, the at-Horr, who has been seriously ill from an acute attack of bronchitis for the last few days, says that Mr. Horr's condition is much improved to-night, though he is not yet out of danger. It was announced to-day that the ex-Congressman was also affileted with Bright's disease.

KILLED BY FALLING OUT OF BED.

Orange, Dec. 7 (Special).-Joseph Gray, a hostler. employed in the livery stables of Jacob Dietrich at No. 116 Main-st., East Orange, was accidentally killed this morning in a curlous way. Last night after finishing his work he went to Newark and spent the evening, returning late at night. He slept on the second floor of the stable and, as it slept on the second floor of the stable and, as it appears, moved his cot close to the big double doors on the second story of the building. It is supposed that he was restless in the night and fell from his bed against the swinging doors, which gave way with him, precipitating him to the sidewalk, a distance of about lifteen feet, where his body was found this morning. The neck and arms of the unfortunate man had been broken by the fall. Gray was about forty-five years old, and came to East Orange from Boston, about six years ago.

ACCIDENTALLY KILLED HIS MOTHER

Sea Isle City, Dec. 7 (Special).-A sad accident occurred on Saturday afternoon near Hancock's Bridge, Salem County. Mrs. Samuel Baker, wife of a prosperous farmer, was accidentally shot and killed by her sixteen-year-old son. Young Baker was preparing his gun for a trip to the woods. He had opened it at the breach for the purpose of inserting two shells, when one of the cartridges exploded. Mrs. Baker stood directly in front of the gun, and the entire charge entered her body. Sho died in ten minutes.

WOOD AND COAL ANDIRONS, HOLDERS, FENDERS. SCREENS. FIRESETS,

Everything Pertaining to the Open Fireplace. Best Made, Newest Patterns, Maker's Prices. WM=H-JACKSON=&O

860 Broadway, Union Sq. & 18th St.

WORLD GROWING WORSE THIS IS WHAT MR. MOODY BELIEVES

IN SPITE OF THAT FACT, HOWEVER, HE DE-CLARES THAT HE COULD NOT BE

A PESSIMIST. "The Return of Our Lord" was the topic which Mr. Moody discussed in Cooper Union yesterday morning, and he announced that he would speak this morning upon the same subject. The topic for the afternoon each day this week is "Preach-

The speaker said that a large class of Christians believe that Christ will come before the millen-nium; another class thinks that He is coming after the millennium. A great many Christians do not give any attention to the subject.. Giving his own opinion, Mr. Moody said he believed that the world is going to end with a crash, that it is growing worse, but in spite of that fact he was not pessimist and could never become one. It was important, he said, to know what the

Bible writers said upon this subject. Paul speaks of baptism thirteen times; he refers to the return of the Lord fifty times. There are 260 chapters in the New Testament, and in them there are 313 passages which refer to the Lord's return. Reference was made to the most precious cheapter in Paul's writings. This, he said, was the fifteenth chapter of writings. This, he said, was the fifteenth chapter of I. Corinthians. This chapter is read more perhaps than any other one in the episties, and one of the most important truths in that chapter is the Lord's return. The most precious chapter in John's writings, and the most precious chapter in John's writings, and the most precious in all the Rible, is the fourteenth chapter of John's Gospel, where the Lord promises not only to prepare a place for His disciples but also to return for them. Mr. Moody said that the second coming of Christ should not be confounded with death. Death might overtake him before Christ came, but he was looking for Christ and not for death. The true attitude of the Christian is to look for the return of the Master. He condemned that form of Christianity which did not make a man better, more numble and more gentle. He said that such religion was not worth carrying from the hall, and he advised the people to leave it there and get something better.

A FISH STORY WITH A VENGEANCE.

THE COMPARATIVE SWALLOWING CAPACITIES OF A WHALE AND A PRESS ASSOCIATION.

The New-York City Press Association, No. 198 Fulton-st., has made an astounding discovery Yesterday this association sent out to the news papers an amazing statement to the effect that Captain F. W. Warren, of Southampton, Long Island, while on a whaling voyage in the North Pacific Ocean, on December 3 had been swallowed by a whale. Common-sense seems to be uously absent from the quarters of the New-York City Press Association. Outside of its rooms a No. 108 Fulton-st, it is known by almost every one that a whale's throat is so small that by no posibility could a whale swallow a man. The New-York City Press Association does not assert that a miracle took place in the case of Captain Warren. but unless a miracle did occur it is an absolute imbut unless a miracle did occur it is an absolute im-possibility that he could have been swallowed by a whale. But if the whale's swallowing capacity is too limited for the enguling of a man, it is plain that the swallowing capacity of the management of the New-York City Press Association is illimit-able. Any association that could swallow such a tale and send it out to the newspapers is charac-terized by credulity and simplicity that makes its judgment of news peculiar and exceptional.

DR. WATSON'S LAST LECTURES HERE.

The present is the last of the ten weeks' lecture he well-known Scotch novelist and clergyman on will make only two more appearances before he public of this city. The first of the two will the public of this city. The first of the two will be on next Thursday morning at the Waldorf, and the second will be on the morning of the day after, when, by special request, he will speak on the poetry of Burns under the auspices of the St. Andrews Society. The novelist's lectures have been most successful everywhere he has been. Outside of this city Dr. Watson will appear this week in Princeton, Plainfield. Poughkeepsle, Kingston, Brooklyn, Jersey City, Williamsburg, Paterson, Stamford, Conn., and Englewood. His last public appearance will be next Sunday, when he will preach for the Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott in Plymouth Church in Brooklyn.

EX-SPEAKER KEIFER'S VIEWS.

Ex-Speaker J. Warren Kelfer, of Ohio, is in the ity looking after some business intérests. When sked about the contest for John Sherman's seat in the Senate he replied thoughtfully "I cannot tell, but I rather think the Senator will be a can-didate to succeed himself; but, of course, I don't

"If he should be called to the Cabinet?"

"I don't know anything about Cabinet slates," was Mr. Keifer's quick response; "but I do not think the Senator will go into the Cabinet. Hanna? Well, I am inclined to the belief that he would rather be in the Senate than go into the Cabinet. Speaking about the opening of Congress he said: "I am opposed to the Dingley bill on account of its ad valorem duties. We should return to specific duties and a discriminating protective tariff. I believe that if it is necessary to have a high protective tariff on certain industries in order to foster them, we should not hesitate at all. On other articles the tariff should be high enough to afford revenue to run the Government. I don't believe in an extra session, either, to prolong the tariff tinkering for a year or so. Business men want a rellef and people generally do not know what to do until the tariff question is settled." "If he should be called to the Cabinet?"

TO REDUCE ITS CAPITAL STOCK. It is proposed to reduce the capital of the Can-

tral National Bank from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000. This is the bank of which Mayor Strong was formerly president and of which he still is a director. The natter will be voted on at a meeting of the stockholders to be held in January.

The bank owned a building on the northeast corner of Broadway and Pearl-st., which it sold for \$80,000 to a syndicate. The syndicate is erecting a towering new building on the site, which is to be called the Central National Bank building and the bank will become a tenant of the syndi-cate. The reason the bank sold the old building was because it did not pay, and it was not deemed wise to make the investment that would be called

for by a new building.

The bank has a surplus of \$538,800. It is proposed to take up half of each owner's holding of stock and pay for it at par. From the sale of its building and its surplus the bank has abundant funds to pay for the stock. The amount derived from the building practically provides the required

the building practically provides the required funds.

The bank has been paying 7 per cent. dividends on its stock, and the last sale of the stock was at 1391-2. The reduction in the stock will, for one thing, enable much larger dividends to be paid on the stock, and, of course, the market value of the stock will be greatly increased. For another thing, there is a tax of 2 per cent, on the capital stock and one-half of the tax will be saved.

The showing for the bank in the weekly statement of the associated banks on Saturday last was: Deposits, \$19,712,000; legal tenders, \$3,054,000; specie, \$8,092,000; circulation, \$369,000; loans and discounts \$3,092,000. The Central National was established in 1864.

METROPOLITAN RAILWAY MEETING. What promises to be an important meeting of the way Company is to be held this afternoon in the offices of the company, in the Cable Building. The subject to be considered is the adoption of motive power for some of the lines now controlled by the Metropolitan Company, the Fourth, Sixth and Eighth ave, lines, which are now using horses.

Eighth ave, lines, which are now using notices, II, H. Vrceland, president of the Metropolitan Street Railway Company, when seen yesterday afternoon, said, in reference to to-day's meeting: "It now seems that the system to be adopted is the "It now seems that the system to be adopted is the underground trolley system, which has worked with so much success on the Lenox-ave, branch, it is probable that all of our work to be done in the spring will consist in putting in this system. The tests with compressed air have all proven highly satisfactory, so far as they have gone, but there are two sides to be considered in this. The commercial, as well as the practical, side must be considered, and this cannot be done in a day or a week or a month. It takes time. So for the present the underground trolley seems the best."

It is said that the new cars are to be similar to those used in Broadway, but lighter, and they will be lighted by electricity. Air motors, so it is said, may ultimately be put on the Lexington and Columbus ave, lines. There will be no change, so it was announced yesterday, from the cable now in use on the Broadway, Lexington and Columbus ave, lines for some time to come. It is understood that it will take about four months to equip the

NEW-JERSEY NEWS. | Useful Christmas Gifts, | new lines, and that the carrying capacity will be materially leasened. while the expenses will be materially JOYS FOR YOUNG READERS.

ATTRACTIVE HOLIDAY BOOKS AT E. P. DUTTON & CO.'S

There is certainly no class of people that looks forward to the Christmas season with more eager anticipation than children, and this fact is often a source of perplexity to parents who find it hard to choose presents that will please the little ones and be of benefit to them also. Their choice is likely to be a good one, however, if it falls upon books of the sort that E. P. Dutton & Co. are bringing out for the holidays. The firm have a reputation for the publishing of books suitable to reputation for the publishing of books suitable to children of all ages, and especially to those who are young enough to take delight in hearing a pretty tale or jingle read aloud.

Prominent among the new publications of the house is an edition of that immemorial favorite Mother Goose," which the firm looks upon as the finest bit of juvenile bookwork it has pro duced for years. It is, in the first place, a bona fide "Mother Goose." All the old rhymes that fide "Mother Goose." All the old rhymes that are comprised in that title are to be found in the volume, and no modern jingles have been added to spoil the harmony of the old ones. There are 108 pages, and 48 attractive pictures in color, be sides a profusion of black-and-white illustrations. which are bound to awaken an ardent interest in the youthful beholder. The cover is gayly rated with gray-green, red and old-gold stamp, and bears the figure of a little girl seated upon flying goose. The print is remarkably large and clear, and the paper of substantial quality. E. S. Hardy is the illustrator of the book, which is E. S. Hardy is the illustrator of the book, which is really a companion volume to the firm's popular edition of "Robinson Crusoe." The "Mother Goore" makes a present of standard value for any young child. Mrs. Hardy is engaged on the illustrations for a new "Hans Andersen," which the firm will bring out next year.

"Peeps Into Fairy Land" may be reckoned among the best of their original books. It is a series of interesting fairy pantomines, handsom ly bound, with a picture figured on the cover of the famous "Babes in the Wood" standing in an oakleaf, which is being drawn through the air by robins. The book is arranged by the late Fred Barnard, the former well-known contributor to Punch." and contains an introduction by Fred-

erick E. Weatherley.

Another attractively bound volume, intended for little ones, is "Sweets from Fairyland," which consists of fairy stories and verses by F. E. Weatherley sists of fairy stories and verses by F. E. A feature of and Robert E. Mack, with illustrations. A feature of the book, and one which will strongly commend it to all who have the task of amusing children, is the transformation which can be effected in the different colored pictures of the book. By means of an in-genious arrangement in the form of a paper attacament a new scene can be whipped over the face of the one in place so quickly that the child hardly realizes how it is done. The firm is getting out a large number of these book curiosities for children. they all give pleasing effects. The variety in

large number of these book curlostiles for children, and they all give pleasing effects. The varfety in transformation scenes is great, and there is also a good assortment of pantomime books which throw their scenes out into reliet. One of these represents a number of menagerie views, with divers performances in the cages of wild beasts.

For miscellaneous stories for young children there are few books that can approach "Merry Hearts," one of the firm's new publications. It is a series of stories and verses by Francis Crompton, Mrs. Molesworth, Helen Milman, F. E. Weatherley and others. They are admirably written, and the book is so profusely illustrated that one cannot open it without exposing a full-page pleture in colors, or an artistic black-and-white sketch, usually the reproduction of a wash drawing.

Among the other valuable publications of E. P. Dutton & Co., "Good Cheer for a Year" is worthy of particular note. It consists of passages from sermons by the late Phillips Brooks, one for each day of the year, with a Scripture heading, and sometimes a poetical selection. The book is most tastefully bound, with a good portrait of Dr. Brooks, taken from a photograph, on the cover, and a gold stamp. W. M. L. Jay is the compiler of the work. It is an excellent little volume to serve as a gift for Christmas or New Year's Day. THE CITY GAS SITUATION.

The agreement entered into by the city gas com-

panies, it is said, may result in dollar gas. It is re-ported that the East River and Standard companies have practically been supplying gas at a dollar through rebates and other concessions. The output of gas in New-York annually is estimated at 11,000,000,000 feet divided among the companies about as follows: Consolidated, 6,000,000,000; Equitable, 2,000,000,000; Mutual, Standard and East River, each 1,000,000,000. Talk of the absorption of the East River by the Consolidated Company con-tinues, but it is not believed there is any immediate prospect of such an outcome.

The vice-president of one of the companies said

yesterday: "There will be no consolidation of the gas companies. There will simply be an arrangement to prevent the cutting of rates. There has been evidence that a war of rates would soon break out unless something should be done to prevent it. An arrangement has been perfected, and there will be no cut in prices."

be no cut in prices.

A director of one of the companies said: "It is
a director whether the new agreement of the city
gas companies will prevent dollar gas in Newyork. Some of the new companies have been doing
york. Some of the new companies have been doing their best to make a place for themselves by meth-ods which in ordinary business would not be tol-erated.

CAPTAIN FAIRCHILD'S DEFENCE.

The investigation of the charges against Samuel G. Fairehild and Thomas H. Barrett, local inspectors of steam vessels, was continued yesterday be fore the Court of Inquiry composed of the super-vising inspectors. In defence of Fairchild, Captain Cooper, local inspector of hulls at Baltimore, testified that in 1834 he had ordered repairs to the fishing banks steamer Havana at an estimated cost of \$15,000, and that they had been completed. Darius E. Robbius, a ship broker, said Captain Fairchild bore an excellent reputation as an inspector, and that he had known him for twenty

The next witness, John M. Wilcox, captain of the steamer Belle Horton, said that Captain Fairchild had performed his duties on that boat on July t steamer Belle Horton, said that boat on July 4 and 5 last, and furthermore, that he had not travelled on a pass, as was alleged in the charges. William II. Finherty testified that he had bought the Catharine Whitney last September and had repaired her for use in construction of lighthouses. Captain Fairchild had looked at the boat and recommended the removal of an iron strip along her side because the calking might be in bad condition underneath it. Flaherty evidently paid no attention to the suggestion, and when the vessel spring a leak in Huntington Bay, some time afterward, it was found that the trouble was underneath the Iron sheathing, the removal of which Fairchild had recommended. Flaherty made a general denial of all the testimony by the Government's witnesses to the effect that the Catharine Whitney had been declared seaworthy as the result of a deal costing him \$1,000, and that he had tried to bring political influence to bear on Captain Fairchild.

ARMY CORPS VETERANS TO DINE. The annual reunion of the Association of Veterans of the Eleventh Army Corps, of which General L. P. dl Cesnola is president, will be held at Zanghe ri's, No. 17 East Twenty-second-st., on Tuesday of rext week. Among those who are expected to b present are Generals O. O. Howard, Horarto C King, Franz Sigel, Carl Schurz, Daniel Butter-field, Grosvenor, of Ohlo; Orland Smith, J. T. Lockman, Colonels A. C. Hamlin, William F. Fox and Major Wernecke. A number of distinguished Confederate officers have also been invited, among whom are General Roger A. Pryor, Colonel Blackford and Major Barton. Colonel Hamlin, the his torian of the corps, having completed his book on "The Eleventh Corps at Chancellorsville," the din-ner will be made the occasion of distributing the same to the subscribers.

RICHARD RIKER'S LIBRARY SOLD.

The sale at auction of the library of the late Richard Riker was begun by Bangs & Co. at the ternoon. The collection was one of standard and illustrated works, all of which were in good condition and many in elegant bindings. There was a large attendance of buyers and the bidding was spirited, but prices ruled low, ranging from 2 cents to \$25 per volume. The sale will be continued at 3 p. m. to-day.

THE LOAN SOCIETY'S AUCTION.

The third annual sale of the Provident Loan So clety, of No. 279 Fourth-ave., began yesterday morning, the goods being auctioned at the Fifth Avenue Auction Rooms by William B. Norman. The lot offered for sale consisted of jewelry, watches and small articles. The goods brought only a small part of their value, although the bid-ding was brisk. More than half the articles were sold yesterday for nearly \$3,000. The total value of sold yesterday for nearly \$3,000. The total value of the entire lot is estimated at about \$6,000. Several lots of silverware had been redeemed before the sale began. A small amount of jewelry was also redeemed, by permission of the managers. Otto F. Barnard, president of the Continental Trust Company and secretary of the society, said that many people who would not patronize regular pawnshops had been benefited by the society. The prices received for the articles ranged from \$1.20 to \$102.50. A valise brought the former and a solitaire diamond ring the latter. Among the goods presented for sale were included articles received not only from the poorer class of people, but also from people until recently in good circumstances. A large part of the goods was bought by jewellers and pawnbrokers. The sale will be continued to-day.

BOOTH'S "Hyomei

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Colds.

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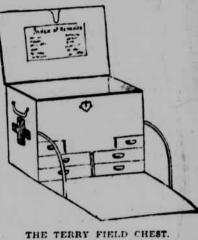
Flint's Fine Furniture. Holiday Novelties are disappearing quickly.

AMBULANCES FOR THE GUARD.

THEY ARE BUILT AFTER PLANS MADE BY SURGEON-GENERAL TERRY.

new ambulances for the National Guard built after plans and suggestions made by Surgeon-General Terry, are ready for delivery to the four brigades. "One of the most difficult points in the construction of these ambulances," said General Terry, "was the water tank, or reservoir. The diffculty has been overcome. I telleve the ambulance is perfect in that respect.

The body of each is built of the best whitewood and ash, suitably strengthened by iron recker-plate. The curtains are of heavy drab canvas, and pouches



of the same material are provided. There are hold ing straps and straps in the centre of the roof for long splints. Each ambulance has two lanters, the one on the dashboard being movable, so it can be placed in the centre or on the side. The one on the placed in the constructed as to give a good light inside is so constructed as to give a good light throughout and behind the ambulance. The best quality of Sweets steel has been used, with spring of the best quality oil-tempered steel, capable of sustaining a weight of 1,500 pounds, exclusive



body of ambulance. Thirteen coats of paint have been used in finishing these vehicles. The inside is finished in natural wood. The ambulances are built to carry two persons on the new Terry litters, of which there will be two for each ambulance, and the long side scats may be in an emergency utilized for two more, as there are straps to hold the pa-

two by forty-eight inches.

The new litter devised by General Terry has a novel attachment in the form of a canvas pillow, which can be pushed into place easily and returned to its place out of the way. The litter weighs only sixteen and a half pounds. It is strong, however, and is guaranteed to sustain a weight of 500 pounds under ordinary test of a litter without damage of breaking. The iron work is nickel-plated and the wood material of the best quality, second growth white ash. General Terry says: "This gives the Hospital Corps 1 litter which is not only strong and practical, but is exceedingly pleasing to the eye." General McAipin, after examining the litter in connection with others, insisted on its being named after the Surgeon-General, who had worked so industriously in perfecting it.

The new medical and surgical chest is made mage. two by forty-eight inches.

so industriously in perfecting it.

The new medical and surgical chest is made mostly of aluminum, but is fortified with steel braces and leather. When fully equipped the bottles for tablets and liquids will be of hard rubber to guard against breaking. Of this General Terry says:

"The list of contents will be modified up to data, and this means great improvement. For instance, hypodermic syringes will have steel pistons, unlike the old leather ones, which rotted. The steinoscope of old will be abandoned for a phenendoscope, an instrument as delicate as the telephone and got up on the same principle, for ascertaining the sounds, normal and otherwise, of the heart and lungs. There will also be an extensive collection of medicines in tablet form, and all sorts of dressings in small packages covered with impervious material to protect them. Sheet wire gauze for splints and hundreds of other of the modern surgical appliances are contained in the chest."

The new equipments are the result of much careful study and investigation on the part of the Surgeon-tieneral, and it is believed that they will prove of much benefit to the National Guard.

WORK OF THE NAVAL RESERVE. Jacob W. Miller, commander of the 1st Naval Battalion, has made his annual report to the Adjutant-General, in which the work of the battalion is reviewed for the year ending November 1, 1896. Six battalion drills were held in the course

weekly through the winter season. Captain Miller refers to the fact that the battailon suffers from lack of facilities for great gun drills, and, with a view to correcting the defect, he suggests that the State make requisition on the Navy Department for one 5-inch gun and carriage. As to the strength of the battalion, the

of the season and each division was exercised

the Navy Department for one 5-inch gun and carriage. As to the strength of the battailon, the commander says:

"The close of the first five years of existence of this organization brought with it a fear that the strength of the command might be diminished; but this fear has not been realized; the places of the men whose time has expired are being rapidly filled by a new and good class of recruits, and this in face of the fact that the city of Brooklys is endeavoring to organize an additional battailon."

THE VIGILANCE LEAGUE TO DINE. The City Vigilance League of New-York will hold

its fourth annual dinner this evening at 7.30 o'clock at the Hotel St. Denis, Broadway and Eleventh-st. at the Hotel St. Denis, Broadway and Eleventh-st.
The Rev. Dr. C. H. Parkhurst, president of the City
Vigilance League, will preside. Joseph Larocque,
chairman of the Committee of Seventy; the Rev.
Dr. David H. Greer, rector of St. Bartholomew's
Protestant Episcopal Church, and George C. Barrett, Custles of the Appellets Division of the Su-Protestant Episcopal Church, and George C. Barrett, fustice of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, will be present and deliver addresses. All applications for tickets, the price of which is Beach, should be accompanied with remittance made payable to the order of the chairman of the committee. Edwin S. Karsing, chairman; Charles A. B. Pratt, William M. Kingsley, John Langdon Erving Thomas L. McClintock, Frank S. Grob, Augusting W. Albott, secretary. All communications regaining the dinner should be sent to the secretary at the committee.

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